
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING EACH SCHOOL WITHIN A REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT WHERE TARO FARMS ARE LOCATED TO SERVE POI OR OTHER TARO PRODUCTS, AND REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION PROGRAM TO ARRANGE FOR WORK, VOLUNTEER, OR STUDY OPPORTUNITIES ON TARO FARMS.

1 WHEREAS, kalo, the Hawaiian word for taro, is a culturally
2 significant plant for Hawaii's indigenous people and the State;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, kalo expresses the spiritual and physical
6 prosperity of not only the kanaka maoli and their heritage, but
7 also symbolizes environmental, social, and cultural values
8 important to the State; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 2007, the Legislature recognized kalo's
11 significance in the State's history and well-being by
12 designating it as the State plant; and
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14 WHEREAS, kalo is an important food crop in Hawaii, as it
15 contains fiber and vitamins C and B-1, as well as the minerals
16 potassium, magnesium, and iron; and
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18 WHEREAS, kalo has hypo-allergenic properties that are
19 extremely important for those with digestive disorders and
20 allergies, including young children and the elderly; and
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22 WHEREAS, fostering the connection between school children
23 and kalo has health benefits and effectively teaches students
24 about the Hawaiian culture; now, therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2011, that each public school within a regional
29 administrative district where taro farms are located is
30 requested to serve poi or other taro products under the school
31 meals program not less than once each week; provided that each
32 school is requested to purchase the poi or taro product from a



1 taro farm located within its regional administrative district;
2 and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the agriculture
5 education program established pursuant to section 302A-431.7,
6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, is requested to arrange for interested
7 schools, classes, or students to work, volunteer, or study on a
8 taro farm located within the regional administrative district of
9 the interested school, class, or students; provided that the
10 arrangement may accommodate a school or class project, provide
11 school credit, or fulfill a public service requirement; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
15 the Director of the Agriculture Education Program, and the
16 Chairperson of the Board of Education, who in turn is requested
17 to transmit copies to each school that is in a regional
18 administrative district where taro farms are located.
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OFFERED BY:

Mele Carroll

Tom Brun

[Signature]
Ray Henderson

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